

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BLANTY 00021 081816Z

63

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-10 SAM-01 /075 W

----- 094835

R 081415Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7660

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 021

CAPE TOWN FOR EMB

LONDON FOR HAVERKAMP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MI, ZA

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BANDA DEPARTS FOR STATE VISIT TO ZAMBIA

REF: BLANTYRE 0004

1. PRESIDENT BANDA DEPARTED FOR ZAMBIA AT 11:00 A.M. TODAY ON AN AIR MALAWI JET TO RETURN THE VISIT WHICH PRESIDENT KAUNDA MADE TO MALAWI IN MAY, 1974. FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS A SOUND TRUCK HAS BEEN CRUISING BLANTYRE AND ENVIRONS URGING PEOPLE TO CHILEKA AIRPORT TO GIVE A STRONG SEND-OFF TO THEIR LIFE PRESIDENT AND SCHOOLS WERE CLOSED TODAY WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO HAVE THEIR PUPILS LINE HIS REOUTE TO THE AIRPORT. UPON ARRIVAL AND AFTER JOINING "HIS WOMEN" SEVERAL TIMES IN THEIR NATIONAL DANCES THE PROGRAM WAS BEGUN WITH REMARKS FROM THE MINISTER FOR THE SOUTHERN REGION CHIWANDA GAMA WHO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BLANTY 00021 081816Z

ASSURED THE PRESIDENT REPEATEDLY THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO FEAR

DURING HIS ABSENCE, THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE PEACEFUL AND CALM IN MALAWI. PRESIDENT BANDA ANSWERED CHIWANDA BY EXPLAINING TO THE ASSEMBLED 2-3000 PEOPLE THAT CHIWANDA WAS THINKING OF TIMES PAST AND THE REBELLIOUS MINISTERS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS WHO OF COURSE HAVE NOW BEEN DETAINED OR DISPERSED BUT SHOULD ANY REMNANT TRY TO MAKE TROUBLE IT WOULD BE DEALT WITH QUICKLY AND RUTHLESSLY BY "HIS PEOPLE." HIS PEOPLE ARE HIS "SPECIAL BRANCH." THEREFORE, HE LEAVES MALAWI WITH COMPLETE CONFIDENCE AND NO WORRY WHATSOEVER.

2. BANDA ALSO WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT AS THE OLDER OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS "WITH LESS HAIR AND MORE GRAY IN IT" IT WAS RIGHT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFRICAN TRADITION THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA SHOULD VISIT HIM FIRST AS HE HAD DONE. HE WAS NOW GLADLY RETURNING THIS COURTESY AND MARK OF CONSIDERATION, AND IS VERY PLEASED THAT RELATIONS WITH ZAMBIA ARE NOW WARM AND FRIENDLY.

3. IN ADDITION TO THOSE MENTIONED REFTEL, HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS AMB TO THE U.S., ROBERT MBAYA.

4. COMMENT: IT WAS A ROUTINE SEND-OFF BY A RATHER MODEST ASSEMBLAGE CONSIDERING THE EFFORT MADE BY THE MALAWI CONGRESS PARTY. THE EMPHASIS PLACED ON STABILITY AND ORDER IN HIS ABSENCE IN OUR OPINION REFLECTS MORE HIS EVER PRESENT PARANOIA REGARDING HIS EX-MINISTERS RATHER THAN ANY DISCERNIBLE THREAT TO HIS EVER MORE AUTOCRATIC RULE. IN FACT, THIS IS BANDA'S FIRST TRIP OUTSIDE MALAWI IN THREE YEARS. THERE HAS BEEN A GENERAL BELIEF LOCALLY THAT FEAR FOR HIS PERSONAL SECURITY OR FEAR OF TURNING HIS BACK ON THE LOCAL SITUATION HAS IMPEDED HIS TRADITIONAL LOVE OF TRAVEL (WHICH AFTERALL IS NECESSARY FOR "CONTACT AND DIALOGUE"). STEVENSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BLANTY00021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750008-0101
From: BLANTYRE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750171/aaaacjvc.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BLANTYRE 0004
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT BANDA DEPARTS FOR STATE VISIT TO ZAMBIA
TAGS: PFOR, MI, ZA, (BANDA, H KAMUZU), (KAUNDA, KENNETH D)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006